AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 68 (cancelled)

69. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a human with a joint disease involving cartilage, the method comprising:

obtaining an electronic image of a joint, wherein said image includes both normal and diseased cartilage tissue;

electronically evaluating said image to obtain information comprising at least one of volume, area, thickness, shape, curvature, geometry, biochemical contents, signal intensity and relaxation time of said normal and/or diseased tissue; and

determining biomechanical data associated with the joint, wherein determining biomechanical data includes determining at least one axis associated with the joint, the at least one axis associated with a femoral condyle coordinate system and including one of a medial-lateral axis, an inferior-superior axis, and an anterior–posterior axis.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69, wherein biomechanical data includes static loading alignment.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69, wherein biomechanical data includes alignment during joint motion.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69, wherein biomechanical data includes alignment during gait.

73. (Cancelled)

74. (Cancelled)

75. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 69, wherein determining biomechanical data further includes determining ~~the~~ at least one axis ~~is~~ associated with a tibial coordinate system ~~and~~ includinges one of a medial-lateral axis, an inferior-superior axis, and an anterior–posterior axis.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69, further comprising simultaneous displaying said information and biomechanical data.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69, further comprising providing a therapy based on said information and biomechanical data.

78. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 77[[4]], wherein said therapy includes using said information and biomechanical data to shape an implant.

79. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said therapy includes using said information and biomechanical data to shape a model.

80. (New) A method of treating a human with a joint disease involving cartilage, the method comprising:

obtaining an electronic image of a joint, wherein said image includes both normal and diseased cartilage tissue;

electronically evaluating said image to obtain information comprising at least one of volume, area, thickness, shape, curvature, geometry, biochemical contents, signal intensity and relaxation time of said normal and/or diseased tissue; and

determining biomechanical data associated with the joint, wherein determining biomechanical data includes determining at least one axis associated with the joint, the at least

one axis associated with a tibial coordinate system and including one of a medial-lateral axis, an inferior-superior axis, and an anterior–posterior axis.

81. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein biomechanical data includes static loading alignment.

82. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein biomechanical data includes alignment during joint motion.

83. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein biomechanical data includes alignment during gait.

84. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein determining biomechanical data includes determining at least one axis associated with the joint.

85. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein determining biomechanical data further includes determining at least one axis associated with a femoral condyle coordinate system including one of a medial-lateral axis, an inferior-superior axis, and an anterior–posterior axis.

86. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising simultaneous displaying said information and biomechanical data.

87. (New) The method of claim 80, further comprising providing a therapy based on said information and biomechanical data.

88. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein said therapy includes using said information and biomechanical data to shape an implant.

89. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein said therapy includes using said information and biomechanical data to shape a model implant.